



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/092,772	03/07/2002	Mark Melvin Butterworth	10011181-1	2557

7590 11/28/2005

AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
Legal Department, DL429
Intellectual Property Administration
P.O. Box 7599
Loveland, CO 80537-0599

EXAMINER

PERUNGAVOOR, SATHYANARAYA V

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2625

DATE MAILED: 11/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/092,772

Applicant(s)

BUTTERWORTH, MARK MELVIN

Examiner

Sath V. Perungavoor

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 September 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

SN 101092772
Art Unit 2625

DETAILED ACTION

Applicant(s) Response to Official Action

- [1] The response filed on September 30, 2005 has been entered and made of record.

Response to Arguments

- [2] Presented arguments have been fully considered but are held unpersuasive.

Examiner's response to the presented arguments follows below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Summary of Arguments:

Applicant argues that Nakabayshi does not disclose "receiving direction information indicative of a direction of movement between the image capture device and the document during the capture of the plurality of digital images". Accordingly, applicant requests the withdrawal of the rejection.

Examiner's Response:

Examiner respectfully disagrees. Examiner directs the applicant to column 4, lines 45-48 and 54-58 of Nakabayshi where this limitation is glaringly shown. Nakabayshi discloses that the order (i.e. direction) of the scan is preserved and top, bottom, left and right of each scan is determined. Here top, bottom, left and right indicate the direction of movement. Accordingly, Examiner maintains the rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

[3] Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nakabayshi [US 5,675,672].

Regarding claim 1, Nakabayshi meets all the claim limitations, as follows:

A method of generating an electronic text file from a paper-based document that includes a plurality of characters, the method comprising [Figure 3]: capturing a plurality of partially overlapping digital images of the document with an image capture device [56 and 60 on Figure 3, Column 5 Lines 19-39: *First file (first image) and second file (second image) are overlapping.*]; receiving direction information indicative of a direction of movement between the image capture device and the document during the capture of the plurality of digital images [Column 4 Lines 45-48; Column 6 Lines 53-54]; performing optical character recognition on each one of the plurality of captured digital images, and thereby generating a corresponding plurality of electronic text files, each one of the electronic text files including a portion of the plurality of characters in the document [58 and 62 on Figure 3]; comparing the plurality of electronic text files with one another to identify characters that are in common between the electronic text files [Column 5 Lines 36-39]; and combining the plurality of electronic text files into a combined text file based on the comparison, wherein the combined text file includes the plurality of characters in the document [Column 5 Lines 57-60].

Regarding claim 2, Nakabayshi meets all the claim limitations, as follows:

The method of claim 1, and further comprising: storing order information representing the order in which the plurality of digital images were captured *[Column 4 Lines 45-48]*.

Regarding claim 3, Nakabayshi meets all the claim limitations, as follows:

The method of claim 2, wherein the comparison of the plurality of text files is based on the stored order information *[Column 4 Lines 54-58]*.

Regarding claim 4, Nakabayshi meets all the claim limitations, as follows:

The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of digital images are captured with a digital camera, the method further comprising: providing the direction information with a user input device of the digital camera *[Column 4 Lines 45-48, Column 6 Lines 53-54]*.

Regarding claim 5, Nakabayshi meets all the claim limitations, as follows:

The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of digital images are captured with a digital camera, the method further comprising: automatically detecting the direction information *[Column 4 Lines 45-48, Column 6 Lines 53-54: Disclosed method stores scan data in the order received and this is performed automatically without manual intervention. Resulting order is the direction.]*.

Regarding claim 6, Nakabayshi meets all the claim limitations, as follows:

The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of digital images are captured automatically at a predefined time interval [*Column 6 Lines 53-54: The scanner meets this limitation.*].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

[4]. Claims 7-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakabayshi in view of Honma [US 6,304,313].

Regarding claim 7, Nakabayshi discloses the claim limitations, as follows:

an image sensor for generating a plurality of partially overlapping digital images based on optical images directed onto the image sensor by the lens [*120 on Figure 7, 56 and 60 on Figure 3, Column 5 Lines 19-39: First file (first image) and second file (second image) are overlapping.*], and a controller coupled to the image sensor and configured to receive direction information indicative of a direction of movement of the digital camera during capture of the plurality of digital images, and perform optical character recognition on the plurality of digital images, and thereby generate an electronic text file for each one of the plurality of digital images, the electronic text file for each digital image including text appearing in the digital image, the controller configured

to identify overlapping text between electronic text files and stitch the text in the plurality of text files together based on the identified overlapping text [110 on Figure 7, 58 and 62 on Figure 3, Column 5 Lines 36-39, Column 5 Lines 57-60; Column 4 Lines 43-48; Column 6 Line 53].

Nakabayshi does not explicitly disclose the following claim limitations:

A digital camera comprising: a lens;

However, in the same field of endeavor Honma discloses the deficient claim limitations, as follows:

A digital camera comprising: a lens [Title, Column 13 Lines 20-21];

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the teachings of Nakabayshi with Honma to use a digital camera with lens for document stitching, since digital cameras provide small-sized convenience not present in desktop scanners [Honma Column 1 Lines 26-30].

Regarding claim 8, Nakabayshi meets all the claim limitations, as follows:

The digital camera of claim 7, and further comprising: a memory for storing order information representing the order in which the plurality of digital images were captured [112 and 114 on Figure 7, Column 4 Lines 45-48].

Regarding claim 9, Nakabayshi meets all the claim limitations, as follows:

The digital camera of claim 7, and further comprising: a user input device for inputting the direction information [Column 4 Lines 43-48; Column 6 Line 53].

Regarding claim 10, Nakabayshi meets all the claim limitations, as follows:

The digital camera of claim 7, and further comprising: a motion detector for automatically detecting the direction *[Column 4 Lines 43-48: Disclosed method stores scan data in the order received and this is performed automatically without manual intervention. Resulting order is the direction.]*.

Regarding claim 11, Nakabayshi meets all the claim limitations, as follows:

The digital camera of claim 7, wherein the controller is configured to cause the plurality of digital images to be captured automatically at a predefined time interval *[Column 6 Lines 53-54]*.

Regarding claim 12, Nakabayshi meets the claim limitations, as follows:

a display screen for displaying images captured with the digital camera *[116 on Figure 7]*;

based on at least in part on direction information indicative of a direction of movement of the digital camera while the digital images are being captured *[Column 4 Lines 60-65]*.

All residual limitations of this claim is set forth and rejected as per discussion for claim 7.

Regarding claim 13, Nakabayshi and Honma meet the claim limitations, as follows:

The electronic device of claim 12, wherein the electronic device is one of a cellular telephone, a personal digital assistant device, and a laptop computer *[A laptop computer is notoriously well-known. OFFICIAL NOTICE.]*.

Regarding claims 14-17 all claimed limitations are set forth and rejected as per discussion for claims 8-11.

Conclusion

[5] THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.


Contact Information

[6] Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mr. Sath V. Perungavoor whose telephone number is (571) 272-7455. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 8:30am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Bhavesh M. Mehta whose telephone number is (571) 272-7453, can be reached on Monday to Friday from 9:00am to 5:00pm. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Dated: November 17, 2005

By: 
Sath V. Perungavoor
Group Art Unit: 2625
Telephone: (571) 272-7455


KANJIBHAI PATEL
PRIMARY EXAMINER